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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/036,962

Examiner

David A Redding

Applicant(s)

JASIENSKI ET AL.

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 10-29 and 31-41.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
 \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
 (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached  
 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.  
 (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.  
 Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                               | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material         | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.  |

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Cohen on 3/19/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

a) Claim 1, line 1, delete "reactor having a"; line 9, delete "biological reactor" and replace with chamber, wherein at least a portion of said vessel is positioned within the chamber--.

b) Cancel claim 9.

c) Claim 16, line 1, delete "reactor having a"; line 9, delete "biological reactor" and replace with chamber, wherein at least a portion of said vessel is positioned within the chamber--.

d) Claim 20, line 4, after "isolating" insert --,in a vessel,--; line 9, delete "biological reactor" and replace with chamber, wherein at least a portion of said vessel is positioned within the chamber--.

e) Claim 21, line 2, after "biomass" insert --in the vessel--.

f) Claim 23, line 2, after "isolating" insert --in the vessel--.

g) Claim 25, line 2, after "biomass" insert --from the vessel--.

h) Claim 26, line 2, after biomass" insert --in the vessel--

i) Claim 29, line 10, after "chamber" insert --, wherein at least a portion of said vessel is positioned within the chamber--.

j) Cancel claim 30.

k) Claim 32, line 9, after "chamber" insert --, wherein at least a portion of said vessel is positioned within the chamber--.

l) Claim 37, line 6, delete "received from with" and replace with --within--; line 6, before "influent" insert --remaining--; line 9, after "temperature as" insert --the remaining influent and biomass--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: US patent 5,661,030 is not directed to handling fluids (influent) and the remaining US patents do not teach or suggest isolating some of the influent and biomass in the chamber from the remaining influent and biomass.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A Redding whose telephone number is 571-272-1276. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 6:00 - 3:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Warden can be reached on 571-272-1281. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



D.A.R.

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